

Message Text

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44

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 ACDA-05 CIAE-00

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PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01 OMB-01 /092 W

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R 021750Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3176

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

USMISSION USUN NY

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, BR, AO

SUBJECT: ANGOLA: PRESIDENT BACK POLICY TOWARD NEW PORTUGUESE-SPEAKING NATIONS; ANOTHER SIGN OF SUPPORT ALSO SEEN

REFS: A. 75 BRASILIA 11073 NOTAL, B. 75 BRASILIA 10986

1. IN HIS YEAR-END ADDRESS, PRESIDENT GEISEL INCLUDED IN BRIEF TREATMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS REFERENCE TO CLOSER TIES WITH AFRICAN COUNTRIES AS ONE OF HIGHLIGHTS OF 1975. ADDED GEISEL, "SPECIAL SUCCESS SHOULD BE CREDITED TO THE POLICY OF APPROXIMATION WITH THE NEW PORTUGUESE-SPEAKING NATIONS, IN THE CONTEXT OF WHICH, FAITHFUL TO THE PRINCIPLES OF NON-INTERVENTION AND RESPECT FOR THE SELF-DETERMINATION OF PEOPLES, BRAZIL ESTABLISHED DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH ALL THE STATES ARISING FROM PORTUGAL'S OLD COLONIES".

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2. IN MOVE ALSO BEING INTERPRETED AS SUPPORT FOR AFRICAN POLICY

IN GENERAL AND ANGOLA RECOGNITION IN PARTICULAR, CHIEF OF FOREIGN MINISTRY'S DEPARTMENT OF AFRICA, ASIA AND OCEANIA (ITALO ZAPPA) HAS JUST BEEN PROMOTED (TO RANK OF AMBASSADOR).

3. IN STORY ON BOTH THESE ELEMENTS, O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO DECEMBER 31 NOTED AIR OF SATISFACTION AT FOREIGN MINISTRY, "PARTICULARLY AROUND THE MINISTER'S OFFICE", AND CITED "SOME OBSERVERS" AS BELIEVING THAT "MOMENT OF HESITATION" REPRESENTED BY THE "AS YET NOT REALLY CLARIFIED" RECALL FROM LUANDA OF SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE DE ANDRADE MELO (REFTEL B) HAD BEEN "OVERTAKEN". SOTRY ATTRIBUTED TO SAME OBSERVERS IDENTIFICATION OF FOLLOWING "NEW FACTORS"; "THE REACTION OF THE (US) SENATE AND VARIOUS AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS AGAINST A GREATER INVOLVEMENT OF THE US IN ANGOLA; THE ALREADY ALMOST PREDICTABLE DECISION OF THE OAU TO RECOGNIZE THE MPLA GOVERNMENT; AND THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE PARTIES IN CONFLICT WILL REACH AN AGREEMENT".

4. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH ZAPPA WAS IN FACT DESIGNATED BEFORE THE RECOGNITION OF ANGOLA TO OCCUPY THE NEXT AMBASSADORIAL-RANK VACANCY (WHICH AROSE WITH DEATH OF AMB TO U.S. ARAUJO CASTRO), HIS ASCENSION IS STILL NOT WITHOUT SIGNIFICANCE: IT COULD, AFTER ALL, HAVE BEEN DERAILED OR AT LEAST DELAYED IF SERIOUS SECOND THOUGHTS WERE BEING GIVEN TO CHANGE IN ANGOLAN POLICY. EVEN MORE SIGNIFICANT, WE BELIEVE, IS THE SPECIAL EMPHASIS GIVEN THE MATTER OF ANGOL IN THE GEISEL SPEECH. WHILE THE LANGUAGE IS SOMEWHAT BLAND, BOTH ITS INCLUSION AND ITS THRUST REPRESENT A SUBSTANTIAL PRESIDENTIAL ENDORSEMENT OF THE POLICY AND FOREIGN MINISTER SILVEIRA. END COMMENT
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